AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A COS treatment apparatus for a gasified gas containing H_2S, H_2O, O_2, and CO, which comprises:

a first reactor into which the gasified gas is to be introduced , the gas having a temperature of at least 300°C; and

a second reactor located at a downstream side of a gasified gas flow with respect to the first reactor,

wherein the first reactor comprises an O_2 removal catalyst for accelerating the following reaction:

$$2H_2S + 2CO + O_2 \rightarrow 2COS + 2H_2O,$$

the O_2 removal catalyst ~~being a~~ consisting of TiO_2 ~~catalyst carrying~~ and Cr_2O_3 or consisting of TiO_2 and NiO, and

wherein the second reactor comprises a COS conversion catalyst.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The COS treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said O_2 removal catalyst is located in a higher-temperature region with respect to said COS conversion catalyst.

5. (Currently Amended) A COS treatment method for a gasified gas containing H_2S, H_2O, O_2, and CO, the method comprising:

removing O_2 from the gas by using [[a]] an O_2 removal catalyst consisting of TiO_2 ~~catalyst carrying~~ and Cr_2O_3 or consisting of TiO_2 and NiO at a gas temperature of at least 300°C to accelerate the following reaction:

$$2H_2S + 2CO + O_2 \rightarrow 2COS + 2H_2O; \text{ and}$$

after the removing of O_2 from the gas, converting COS contained in the gas to H_2S by using a COS conversion catalyst.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The COS treatment method according to claim 5, wherein said removing O_2 from the gas is performed at a higher temperature with respect to said converting COS to H_2S.

9. (Previously Presented) A COS treatment apparatus for a gasified gas containing H_2S, H_2O, O_2, and CO, comprising:

a reactor into which the gasified gas is to be introduced, the reactor comprising a TiO_2 catalyst carrying Cr_2O_3 and BaO, wherein the TiO_2 catalyst carrying Cr_2O_3 and BaO is an O_2 removal catalyst for accelerating the following reaction:

$$2H_2S + 2CO + O_2 \rightarrow 2COS + 2H_2O,$$

and wherein the TiO_2 catalyst carrying Cr_2O_3 and BaO is a COS conversion catalyst.

10. (Previously Presented) A COS treatment method for a gasified gas containing H_2S, H_2O, O_2, and CO, the method comprising:

removing O_2 from the gas by using a TiO_2 catalyst carrying Cr_2O_3 and BaO to accelerate the following reaction:

$$2H_2S + 2CO + O_2 \rightarrow 2COS + 2H_2O; \text{ and}$$

simultaneously converting COS to H_2S by using the TiO_2 catalyst carrying Cr_2O_3 and BaO.